

NEWS RELEASE

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**FACILITY MANAGERS AT MATHESON COURTHOUSE
SAVED \$75,000 IN THEIR ANNUAL UTILITIES COSTS**

The state's Division of Facilities Construction and Management (DFCM) and the Utah Energy Office announce a savings of \$75,000 in annual utilities costs for the Matheson Courthouse. Primarily, the savings were generated by a process of retro-commissioning the courthouse building to optimize the performance of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. The retro-commissioning process involves the analysis of an existing building's energy using systems and the follow-on improvement measures to reduce energy consumption while maintaining or restoring the building environment to meet the occupants' needs.

Unlike energy efficiency measures that overhaul the building with retrofits such as the replacement of lighting or the addition of control systems, retro-commissioning is the tune-up of existing building systems. Retro-commissioning projects typically cost much less than retrofit projects, thereby resulting in shorter payback periods. A retro-commissioning project employs analytical procedures that accomplish the following:

- Verification and calibration of control sensors
- Testing and balancing the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems
- Optimizing the operation and control of building equipments
- Optimizing the scheduling and sequencing of building systems

The \$75,000 utilities savings for the Matheson Courthouse was achieved in the calendar year 2002 and represents an 18% reduction in the \$400,000 annual utilities costs. Jim Hood, project manager from the Utah Energy Office, notes, "The savings of \$75,000 for 2002 was achieved during the same period that the energy efficiency measures were implemented, so the savings for this next calendar year, 2003, are forecasted to be greater."

After implementing the retro-commissioning measures at Matheson Courthouse and in addition to achieving the utilities savings, DFCM facility managers, Kevin Healy and Mike Butler, have experienced an improved comfort level in the building and noted a reduction in trouble calls for temperature complaints.

This project and the resultant savings are part of Governor Mike Leavitt's 1000-Day Economic Plan. As one of its important action steps, this plan promotes a conservation ethic, which was also expressed by Governor Leavitt when he established the State Buildings Energy Efficiency Program. For more information on the State Buildings Energy Efficiency Program (SBEEP) visit: www.sbeep.utah.gov or contact the Energy Hotline at 1-800-662-3633.

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